

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER

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Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago**

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Our Bimonthly Newsletter includes websites from the Electronic Documentation Service, a mechanism for identifying and delivering authoritative but often hard-to-locate and soon-out-of-print reports by a number of different government agencies and private think tanks.

DEMOCRACY

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT 2004

Amnesty International (AI). May 26, 2004

<http://www.amnesty.org/report2004>

The Amnesty International Report 2004 covers the human rights situation in 155 countries during 2003. Launching the Report, the organization said that violence by armed groups and increasing violations by governments have combined to produce the most sustained attack on human rights and international humanitarian law in 50 years. The core of the report is made up of entries on individual countries and territories, grouped alphabetically by nation. There is also a regional overview that identifies the main human rights trends within the region. The entry for each individual country begins with basic background information, followed by descriptions of what AI views to be the most important human rights issues for that country.

CUBA AFTER CASTRO: LEGACIES, CHALLENGES, AND IMPEDIMENTS

Edward Gonzalez and Kevin F. McCarthy

RAND. May 19, 2004

<http://www.rand.org/publications/MG/MG111/MG111.pdf>

When Fidel Castro departs, Cuba will reach a crossroads. Once Cuba's communist caudillo — or strongman — leaves the scene, his successors will be saddled with daunting political, social, demographic, and economic problems — in short, a vast array of dysfunctional legacies from the fidelista past. The authors examine Castro's political legacies, Cuba's generational and racial divisions, its demographic predicament, the legacy of a centralized economy, and the need for industrial restructuring. They argue that a post-Castro regime that attempts to remain communist may find itself in a cul-de-sac where old policies and instruments no longer work. If such a regime should falter, a democratic-leaning replacement government is only a remote possibility.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT [FOIA] GUIDE, MAY 2004.

United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Web-posted June 2004.

<http://www.usdoj.gov/oip/foi-act.htm>

The Freedom of Information Act generally provides that any person has a right, enforceable in court, to obtain access to federal agency records, except to the extent that such records (or portions of them) are protected from public disclosure by one of nine exemptions or by one of three special law enforcement record exclusions. Enacted in 1966, and taking effect on July 4, 1967, the FOIA firmly established an effective statutory right of public access to executive branch information in the federal government. The principles of government openness and accountability underlying the FOIA, however, are inherent in the democratic ideal: "The basic purpose of [the] FOIA is to ensure an informed citizenry, vital to the functioning of a democratic society, needed to check against corruption and to hold the governors accountable to the governed." The United States Supreme Court

has emphasized that only "[o]fficial information that sheds light on an agency's performance of its statutory duties falls squarely within that statutory purpose."

HOW TO USE THE FEDERAL FOI [FREEDOM OF INFORMATION] ACT, 9TH EDITION

Rebecca Daugherty, editor

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, FOI Service Center. Web-posted June 14, 2004

<http://www.rcfp.org/foiact/index.html>

Originally published in 1976, RCFP has updated this guide to include the most recent changes in Freedom of Information law. Requests for information from the executive branch of the federal government under the Freedom of Information Act may be made by "any person", which means that requests may come from foreign nationals as well as U.S. citizens. The document provides guidance on making requests, requesting fee waivers and appealing initial denials. There are also brief descriptions of types of information that may be exempt from disclosure: National Security; Internal Agency Rules; Statutory Exemptions; Trade Secrets; Internal Agency Memoranda; Personal Privacy Data (medical records, for example); Certain Law Enforcement Records; Bank Reports; Oil and Gas Well Data. The guide contains the text of the FOI Act and a list of FOI contacts at executive branch departments and agencies.

ORGANIZING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE. [Global Report under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work]

International Labour Office (ILO). May 2004

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.DOWNLOAD_BLOB?Var_DocumentID=2502

Research and analysis have demonstrated that respect for freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining also plays an important part in sound economic development. It has a positive effect on economic development by ensuring that the benefits of growth are shared, and promoting productivity, adjustment measures and industrial peace. In a globalized economy, freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining in particular provide a connecting mechanism between social goals and the demands of the marketplace. Consequently, according to the ILO, the real debate cannot and should not be on whether to respect these principles and rights, but on how best to respect and make use of them.

SUPPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY: THE U.S. RECORD 2003-2004

United States Department of State. Web-posted May 17, 2004

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/shrd/2003>

This report is submitted to the Congress by the U.S. Department of State in compliance with Section 665 of P.L. 107-228, the Fiscal Year 2003 Foreign Relations Authorization Act, which was signed into law on September 30, 2002, requiring the Department to report on actions taken by the U.S. Government to encourage respect for human rights. Unlike the Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, issued annually by the State Department and covering 196 countries, this new report highlights U.S. efforts to promote human rights and democracy in the 101 countries and entities with the worst human rights records, taking care to include those countries of concern for "extrajudicial killings, torture and other serious violations of human rights."

THE FREEDOMINFO.ORG GLOBAL SURVEY: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RECORDS AROUND THE WORLD

David Banisar

freedominfo.org. May 12, 2004

http://www.freedominfo.org/survey/global_survey2004.pdf

[Note: The freedominfo.org site is edited by a multinational volunteer Editorial Board, and is hosted and staffed by George Washington University's National Security Archive. Grants from the Open Society Institute, the Ford Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation underwrite the site.]

According to this updated global survey, more than 50 countries now have guaranteed their citizens the right to know what their government is up to, and more than half of these freedom-of-information laws were enacted in the last decade. Over 30 more countries are in the process of enacting freedom of information laws. This document includes links to the texts of laws and concise commentaries on their effectiveness or lack thereof.

[Note: Some of the links do not work, but the majority of them are active.]

VENEZUELA: HEADED TOWARD CIVIL WAR?

International Crisis Group (ICG). May 10, 2004

http://www.crisisweb.org/library/documents/latin_america/040510_venezuela_toward_civil_war.pdf

During the first months of 2004, tension between the government of President Hugo Chavez and the political opposition, organized under the umbrella Democratic Coordinating Instance (Coordinadora Democratica), has approached a breaking point. Rhetoric on both sides increasingly involves incitement to armed action, the allegiance of the state's military and police forces is divided between government and opposition, and the Chavez administration has been actively preparing itself for a possible violent confrontation. The Chavez administration moves to block a recall referendum has angered growing sectors of society. But given the country's extreme polarization, says ICG, democrats on both sides ought to pursue the recall referendum option as the one constitutional avenue for measuring public antipathy during the life of the government.

VENEZUELA: HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER THREAT

Amnesty International (AI). May 12, 2004

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/print/ENGAMR530052004>

In this report Amnesty International highlights cases of excessive use of force, torture and ill-treatment committed by security forces in the context of demonstrations that took place between February and March 2004 and raises serious questions about the commitment of key institutions to prevent and punish such abuses impartially. At least 14 people died in these demonstrations in circumstances that have yet to be clarified. As many as 200 were wounded. Several of those detained were severely ill-treated or tortured by members of the security forces.

WORLD'S WORST PLACES TO BE A JOURNALIST

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). May 3, 2003

http://www.cpj.org/enemies/worst_places_04/worst_places_04.html

At the top of the list is Iraq, where 25 journalists have died since the war began in March 2003. A brutal crackdown launched last year in Cuba by Fidel Castro's government has left an unprecedented 29 journalists behind bars, serving lengthy prison terms of up to 27 years. Last year saw the biggest blow to Zimbabwe's beleaguered press when authorities closed the country's only remaining independent daily. CPJ also placed Turkmenistan, Bangladesh, China, Eritrea, Haiti, the West Bank and Gaza, and Russia on the list of Worst Places to Be a Journalist.

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

2004 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS. [U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission]

U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission. Web-posted June 15, 2004

http://www.uscc.gov/researchreports/2004/04annual_report.PDF

When Congress created the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission in 2000, it gave the Commission the overall mission of evaluating on an annual basis "the national security implications of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China." Within this context, it directed the Commission specifically to investigate the following areas: China's proliferation practices, China's economic reforms and U.S. economic transfers to China, China's energy needs, Chinese firms' access to the U.S. capital markets, U.S. investments into China, China's economic and security impacts in Asia, U.S.-China bilateral programs and agreements, China's record of compliance with its World Trade Organization (WTO) commitments, and the Chinese government's media control efforts.

BUSINESS ETHICS: A MANUAL FOR MANAGING A RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS ENTERPRISE IN EMERGING MARKET ECONOMIES

U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (ITA). July 1, 2004

<http://www.ita.doc.gov/media/Publications/pdf/04BusinessEthics.pdf>

This manual is intended to aid enterprises in designing and implementing a business ethics program that meets emerging global standards of responsible business conduct. Owners and managers can explore the substantial body of global standards, procedures, and expectations described here. They can adopt or adapt them on a sector-by-sector and enterprise-by-enterprise basis, taking into account their particular circumstances, such as applicable laws and regulations, the size of the enterprise, and the enterprise's purpose.

FOREIGN AID: AN INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW OF U.S. PROGRAMS AND POLICY. [98-916]

Curt Tarnoff and Larry Nowels

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). Updated April 15, 2004

<http://www.fas.org/man/crs/98-916.pdf>

This report provides an overview of the U.S. foreign aid program, by addressing a number of the more frequently asked questions regarding the subject. There are five major categories of foreign assistance: bilateral development aid, economic assistance supporting U.S. political and security goals, humanitarian aid, multilateral economic contributions, and military aid. Due largely to the recent implementation of two new foreign aid initiatives - the Millennium Challenge Corporation and the Global AIDS Initiative - bilateral development assistance has become the largest category of U.S. aid.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE: U.S. ANTICORRUPTION PROGRAMS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA WILL REQUIRE TIME AND COMMITMENT. [GAO-04-506]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). May 17, 2004

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04506.pdf>

In October 2000, Congress passed the International Anticorruption and Good Governance Act (P.L. 106-309). The purpose of this legislation is to promote good governance by helping other countries combat corruption and improve government transparency and accountability. U.S. agencies spent about \$33 million per year in fiscal years 2001 and 2002 providing anticorruption assistance to 22 sub-Saharan African countries. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provided the majority of this assistance, along with the Departments of the Treasury, Justice, Commerce, and State.

GLOBALIZATION, POVERTY, AND INEQUALITY SINCE 1980

David Dollar

World Bank. June 2, 2004

http://econ.worldbank.org/files/36107_wps3333.pdf

Economists will continue for years the debate over whether the momentum of globalization affects poverty and inequality rates positively or negatively. Dollar, arguing that globalization and development go hand in hand, documents five trends in the modern era of globalization, all of which begin around 1980. He contends that "the trends toward faster growth and poverty reduction are strongest in the developing countries in which there has been the most rapid integration with the global economy, supporting the view that integration has been a positive force for improving people's lives in the developing world."

LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES REPORT 2004: LINKING INTERNATIONAL TRADE WITH POVERTY REDUCTION

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Web-posted May 27, 2004

http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/ldc2004_en.pdf

The Least Developed Countries Report, a biannual publication, stresses the complex relationship between trade and development. It attempts to define how international trade can help reduce poverty in the least developed countries (LDCs) and suggests what steps can be taken nationally and internationally to that end. One of the main points in this 2004 publication is that the positive effects of international trade are felt in very few LDCs and that export growth alone does not reduce poverty. The failure of trade expansion to lead to poverty reduction has been related to weaker linkages between trade and economic growth than in the more advanced developing countries. Moreover, there is a tendency for export expansion in very poor economies with mass poverty and few surplus financial resources to be associated with an exclusionary rather than inclusive form of economic growth. Civil conflicts in some of the LDCs have also been associated with minimizing trade.

MEETING OF THE OECD COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL 2004: KEY INFORMATION

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). May 13, 2004

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/37/62/31718958.pdf>

On May 13th and 14th, OECD ministers met in Paris to discuss a wide variety of issues, ranging from economic recovery to prospects for financing health care for an aging population. This document is essentially the briefing book for participants.

OIL FOR FOOD PROGRAM SYNOPSIS

United States Senate. Committee on Foreign Relations. May 20, 2004

<http://lugar.senate.gov/oilforfood.pdf>

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has undertaken an inquiry into the Oil-for-Food program. The first hearing was held on April 7. In its inquiry, the Committee found that a program intended to assist the Iraqi people provided opportunities for their oppressor to rob them of a significant portion of the resources that were meant by the international community to address their suffering. The UN Oil-for-Food program was designed with the intention of ensuring that the humanitarian needs of the people of Iraq were met while the United Nations maintained economic sanctions against Iraq for its failure to comply with relevant UN Security Council resolutions. [Note: for background materials used in the preparation of this summary, see texts of the April 7 "A Review of the United Nations Oil-for-Food Program" hearings at: <http://foreign.senate.gov/hearings/2004/hrg040407a.html>]

RECENT TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

World Trade Organization (WTO). June 11, 2004

http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres04_e/press378_annex_e.pdf

According to this WTO report, international trade patterns have changed in two significant areas over the past two decades (1985-2003): 1) growth in services trade no longer clearly outstrips the growth in the trade of goods; and 2) agricultural trade has shifted away from commodities towards processed products. Broadly, services and merchandise trade growth have evolved in a roughly similar way since 1990. For 1990-2003, trade in commercial services and goods both grew by about 6% per year on average, and therefore services' share of international trade remained at about 20% over the period. As for agricultural products, while their total share of world trade has declined, the trend towards more trade in processed goods can be observed across regions, countries and agricultural products throughout the 1990-2002 period. The WTO Secretariat estimates that processed products approached 48% of agricultural trade by 2001-2002. The question of how far trade policy may be responsible for these observed trends is a matter for further research, the report says.

THE FISCAL SURVEY OF STATES [2004]

National Governors Association (NGA). April 2004, Web-posted May 4, 2004

<http://www.nga.org/cda/files/FSS0404.pdf>

The biennial "Fiscal Survey of States" assembles data self-reported by states on their general fund budgets. [General fund budgets are the current, operational plans states use to finance most broad-based state programs and services and thus are the most important element in determining states' overall fiscal health. General funds are about one-half of state expenditures. States also make expenditures from other dedicated state funds (such as for education or transportation), from bonds, and from federal grants-in-aid.] This latest report indicates that while the national economy shows signs of improvement, states still face an uphill battle to recover from the worst fiscal crisis in the last 60 years. Despite the fact that revenues are coming in as projected, the report finds that state spending continues to be sluggish and rainy day funds have improved little in the last year. Additionally, states remain shackled with skyrocketing health care costs and the report said they will face fiscal difficulties for the foreseeable future.

THE IMF AND THE FORCE OF HISTORY: TEN EVENTS AND TEN IDEAS THAT HAVE SHAPED THE INSTITUTION. [IMF Working Paper No. 04/75]

James M. Boughton

International Monetary Fund. Web-posted May 21, 2004

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2004/wp0475.pdf>

The founders of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) possessed a worldview that had been shaped by the World War II and the Great Depression. Their views on how the postwar international monetary system should function were also shaped by their economics training and their nationalities. After the IMF began functioning as an institution, its evolution was similarly driven by a combination of political events (Suez, African independence, the collapse of global communism), economic events (the rising economic power of Europe, the Middle East, and Asia), and trends and cycles in economic theory (the monetary approach to the balance of payments, new classical economics, the rise and fall of the Washington Consensus). As they happened, these forces had effects that were perceived as adaptations to current events and new ideas within a fixed institutional structure and mandate. The cumulative effect of history on the institution has been rather more profound and requires a longer and larger perspective.

THE REMITTANCE MARKETPLACE: PRICES, POLICY AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Manuel Orozco

Pew Hispanic Center. June 7, 2004

<http://www.pewhispanic.org/site/docs/pdf/Remittances%20june%2004%20final.pdf>

This report provides a detailed evaluation of how much it costs for immigrants to send money back home to their families in Latin America. The study reveals that although the cost of transferring money has dropped since the late 1990s, the rate of decline has slowed markedly in the past three years. The slowing has come despite rapidly growing volume and increased competition in the marketplace. This suggests that further price reductions might be difficult to achieve under current market conditions. The report also shows that substantial numbers of banks and credit unions in the United States have launched major initiatives in remittance services over the past three years. However, they have captured only a small fraction of the market which continues to be dominated by wire transfer firms.

THE STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE 2003-04

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). May 17, 2004

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/006/Y5160E/Y5160E00.HTM>

Agriculture will have to sustain an additional 2 billion people over the next 30 years from an increasingly fragile natural resource base. The challenge is to develop technologies that combine several objectives - increase yields and reduce costs, protect the environment, address consumer concerns for food safety and quality, enhance rural livelihoods and food security, according to the FAO. More than 70 percent of the world's poor still live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their survival. Agricultural research - including biotechnology - holds an important key to meeting their needs, according to this report.

THE WTO AND THE POOREST COUNTRIES: THE STARK REALITY. [IMF Working Paper 04/81]

Aaditya Mattoo and Arvind Subramanian

International Monetary Fund (IMF). May 27, 2004

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2004/wp0481.pdf>

The World Trade Organization (WTO) faces challenges relating to countries that are small and poor, categories that account for a large and growing share of the WTO's membership. The first problem is somewhat obvious: these countries often "do not have much to offer trading partners by way of market access concessions. This limits the extent to which they can seriously engage in, and reap benefits from, the reciprocal bargaining that is central to the operation of the WTO." A second problem is a rather distorted mirror image of the first: "[T]he interests of these countries are only imperfectly aligned with the broader liberalization agenda of the multilateral trading system. Since they have preferential access to the markets of the industrial countries, further multilateral liberalization would in certain areas erode rather than enhance their access to these markets. In addition, they would probably reap few benefits and incur substantial costs from the broadening of the WTO to include new areas."

TRADE AGREEMENTS AND LABOR STANDARDS. [BROOKINGS POLICY BRIEF NO. 133]

Theodore H. Moran

Brookings Institution. May 2004

<http://www.brookings.edu/dybdocroot/comm/policybriefs/pb133.pdf>

[Note: In this document, Moran refers to a National Research Council report entitled "Monitoring International Labor Standards: Techniques and Sources of Information". An Executive Summary of that report is available at: http://www7.nationalacademies.org/internationallabor/Monitoring_International_Labor_Standards_Executive_Summary_PDF.pdf]

This policy brief outlines the challenges in assessing compliance with the four International Labor Organization (ILO) core labor standards: 1) freedom of association and effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; 2) the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labor; 3) the effective abolition of child labor; and 4) the elimination of discrimination with respect to employment and occupation. The author then lays out a simple framework for "due diligence" in investigating compliance—which could apply to China, Mexico, Sweden, or the United States—and addresses the implications for trying to include labor standards in modern trade agreements.

WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK: ADVANCING STRUCTURAL REFORMS

International Monetary Fund (IMF). April 2004

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2004/01/data/index.htm>

The World Economic Outlook presents the IMF staff's analysis and projections of economic developments at the global level, in major country groups (classified by region, stage of development, etc.), and in many individual countries. It focuses on major economic policy issues as well as on the analysis of economic developments and prospects. It is usually prepared twice a year, as documentation for meetings of the International Monetary and Financial Committee, and forms the main instrument of the IMF's global surveillance activities. A theme that runs through the chapters and essays in this Outlook is the importance of enhancing the ability of economies to cope with adversity. The outlook for the world economy is among the rosier IMF has seen for a decade, but they warn that this is the time to make economies more resilient.

WTO ANNUAL REPORT

World Trade Organization (WTO). May 26, 2004

http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/anrep_e/anrep04_e.pdf

WTO publishes its annual report each spring. It serves as a guide to and compendium of the institutional aspects of the WTO, its regular activities, the work of WTO Members, and the Secretariat's budget and staff. The report provides brief overviews of the year's trade developments, the Doha Development Agenda, the fifth Ministerial Conference, and provides a list of WTO members as of December 31, 2003.

GENERAL

AVIATION SECURITY: FURTHER STEPS NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN THE SECURITY OF COMMERCIAL AIRPORT PERIMETERS AND ACCESS CONTROLS. [GAO-04-728]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). June 8, 2004

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04728.pdf>

[Note: Because of the sensitive nature of some of material in this investigation, GAO has issued a more detailed, restricted version to certain members of Congress.]

In the 2 years since passage of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (ATSA), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has primarily focused its efforts on improving aviation security through enhanced passenger and baggage screening. The act also contained provisions directing TSA to take actions to improve the security of airport perimeters, access controls, and airport workers. GAO was asked to assess TSA's efforts to: (1) evaluate the security of airport perimeters and the controls that limit access into secured airport areas, (2) help airports implement and enhance perimeter security and access controls by providing them funding and technical guidance, and (3) implement measures to reduce the potential security risks posed by airport workers.

BOSTON COLLEGE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION

http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/soe/cihe/

Under the direction of Philip G. Altbach, the Boston College Center for International Higher Education functions as a clearinghouse of material on the changing nature and form of higher education. Much of the center's focus revolves around creating dialogue and cooperation among academic institutions in the industrialized nations and those in the developing countries of the Third World. From the mainpage visitors can view carefully selected lists of weblinks designed for scholars of higher education, and one list that is specifically designed for persons interested in higher education in Africa. Perhaps the main highlight of the site is the online edition of the center's well-regarded newsletter, *_International Higher Education_*. Here visitors can read pieces about the rise of for-profit higher education in the United States, undergraduate education in Brazil, and student loan financing in Thailand. Visitors may also browse an archive of the newsletter that dates back to the first issue, which was released in May 1995.

EGOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP: HIGH PERFORMANCE, MAXIMUM VALUE

Accenture. May 4, 2004

http://www.accenture.com/xdoc/en/industries/government/gove_egov_value.pdf

This is Accenture's fifth annual global study of electronic government, or eGovernment, which is defined as "governments providing information about services, as well as the ability to conduct government transactions, via the Internet." This year Accenture conducted both quantitative and qualitative research to learn about attitudes

and practices regarding eGovernment. The study is based on results of a survey of 5,000 regular Internet users in 12 countries in North America, Europe and Asia, as well as a quantitative assessment of the maturity of eGovernment services in 22 countries.

ELECTIONS: ELECTRONIC VOTING OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES AND PRESENTS CHALLENGES

Testimony of Randolph C. Hite Before the Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census, Committee on Government Reform, House of Representatives.

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). May 12, 2004

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04766t.pdf>

Electronic voting systems play a vital role in elections, but they are only one component in a multidimensional process. The people, processes, and technology that make up these various dimensions all contribute to the success of the overall election process. From a national perspective, this overall process involves many levels of government, including over 10,000 jurisdictions with widely varying characteristics and requirements. For example, the size of a jurisdiction and the languages spoken by voters are significant variables in local election processes, as is the performance of the particular voting system used. Randolph Hite, Director of Information Technology Architecture and Systems at GAO, reviews the pros and cons of currently available electronic voting systems.

FILE SHARING: SELECTED UNIVERSITIES REPORT TAKING ACTION TO REDUCE COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT. [GAO-04-503]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). May 2004, Web-posted June 4, 2004

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04503.pdf>

The emergence of peer-to-peer file-sharing applications that allow networks to share computer files among millions of users has changed the way copyrighted materials, including digital music, videos, software, and images can be distributed and has led to a dramatic increase in the incidence of copyright infringement (piracy) of these digital materials. These applications enable direct communication between users, allowing users to access each other's files and share digital music, videos, and software. According to a coalition of intellectual property owners in the entertainment industry, an increasing number of students are using the fast Internet connections offered by college and university networks to infringe copyrights by illegally downloading and sharing massive volumes of copyrighted materials on peer-to-peer networks.

HANDBOOK OF FEDERAL LIBRARIANSHIP, 2ND EDITION

The Library of Congress, Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) 2004

<http://www.loc.gov/flicc/pubs/federalhandbook.pdf>

The Handbook of Federal Librarianship is a project of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) Education Working Group. Committee members are primarily a group of federal librarians with a few federal employees who hold positions in federal libraries and information centers. All chapters of the handbook have been revised and updated for this second edition. In keeping with the charge of the original Task Force, FLICC offers this handbook as a resource tool for librarians new to the federal community and a quick reference guide for established federal librarians. The Federal Librarians Handbook is written for professional librarians and is therefore not intended as a manual to instruct anyone on how to be a librarian.

HOW AMERICANS GET IN TOUCH WITH GOVERNMENT

John B. Horrigan

Pew Internet & American Life Project. May 24, 2004

http://www.pewinternet.org/reports/pdfs/PIP_E-Gov_Report_0504.pdf

New research in this report shows that 97 million adult Americans, or 77% of Internet users, took advantage of e-government in 2003, whether that meant going to government Web sites or emailing government officials. This represented a growth of 50% from 2002. At the same time, citizens who contact government said they are more likely to turn to traditional means – via the telephone or in-person visits – rather than the Web or email to deal with government. E-government increases the flow of information between citizens and government, allowing people to contact agencies directly over the Web or find out more about a problem they may need government assistance with before they pick up the phone. It also allows people to comment easily on civic issues of the day.

LIVING TOGETHER: A NEW LOOK AT RACIAL AND ETHNIC INTEGRATION IN METROPOLITAN NEIGHBORHOODS

David Fasenfest, Jason Booza, and Kurt Metzger

Brookings Institution. April 2004

http://www.brookings.edu/urban/pubs/20040428_fasenfest.pdf

This analysis of the changing racial and ethnic profile of neighborhoods in America's ten largest metropolitan areas between 1990 and 2000 reveals that:

- * The number of predominantly white neighborhoods fell by 30 percent during the 1990s. Neighborhoods with a mixed white and Hispanic or Asian population replaced predominantly white communities as the most common neighborhood type by 2000.

- * Nine of the 10 metro areas saw an increase in mixed-race neighborhoods. In Boston, Chicago, and Detroit, neighborhoods with a mix of whites and Hispanics or Asians fueled this increase. In Dallas, Houston, New York, and Washington, D.C., neighborhoods with a mix of blacks and Hispanics or Asians multiplied most rapidly.

- * Over the decade, whites and blacks became less likely, and Hispanics and Asians became more likely, to live in neighborhoods in which their group predominated.

- * Neighborhoods that changed from homogeneous to mixed-race were often suburban, but patterns varied widely among metro areas. In Washington, neighborhoods with a mix of blacks and Hispanics/Asians grew rapidly in once-predominantly black suburbs. In Chicago, formerly white communities in the central city and older suburbs attracted significant numbers of non-black minorities.

The authors conclude that "[t]he emergence of more mixed-race communities, especially those with growing Hispanic and Asian populations, calls out for examining how policy might foster racial and ethnic integration, and encourage positive social outcomes in an increasingly diverse society."

HOMELAND SECURITY: SELECTED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED COMMISSIONS AND GAO. [GAO-04-591]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). April 30, 2004

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04591.pdf>

Terrorist attacks, both before and after September 11, 2001, have increased congressional concerns regarding the complexity, funding, and oversight of federal programs designed to combat terrorism and ensure homeland security. Hundreds of recommendations have been made by nationally chartered commissions and GAO to further improve U.S. strategic planning and program development in homeland security. GAO was asked to review the reports of selected congressionally chartered commissions and previously issued GAO reports and testimonies in order to identify the strategic recommendations made and organize them both by critical mission area and topic area.

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK, 2004-05 EDITION

United States Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections. March 2004

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/home.htm>

Revised and published every two years, the Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) is perhaps the most nationally-recognized source of career information for people conducting research on career choices, prospects for future employment in specific careers, and descriptions of requirements and conditions of employment. One can search the OOH either by browsing large super-categories (such as "construction" or "transportation", by browsing smaller occupational categories, or by entering search terms for narrower results.

[Note: Occupational Projections and Training Data 2004-2005, web-posted this week as a companion to the OOH, is also valuable to many users, including educators, jobseekers and employment counselors. The Table of Contents, listing charts and tables with specific data, is available at: <http://www.bls.gov/emp/optd/home.htm>.

The entire Projections and Training Data publication may be downloaded as a single pdf file at: <http://www.bls.gov/emp/optd/optd.pdf>]

REINVENTING AGING: BABY BOOMERS AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Harvard School of Public Health-MetLife Foundation Initiative on Retirement and Civic Engagement. June 15, 2004

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/chc/reinventingaging/Report.pdf>

Approximately 77 million babies were born in the United States during the boom years of 1946 to 1964. In 2011, the oldest will turn 65, and, on average, can expect to live to 83. Many will continue well into their 90s. The baby

boomers soon will have the opportunity to redefine the meaning and purpose of the older years. As some of the demands of work and family that have commanded their attention in mid-life recede, boomers will have the potential to become a social resource of unprecedented proportions by actively participating in the life of their communities. But will they participate? Compared to their parents' generation, the so-called "Greatest Generation," boomers have done less by every measure of civic engagement, including rates of voting and joining community groups. This and related questions are examined in this new report, which identifies strategies to expand the contributions of boomers to civic life.

THE CONDITION OF EDUCATION 2004

John Wirt, Patrick Rooney, Susan Choy, Stephen Provasnik, Anindita Sen, and Richard Tobin
United States Department of Education. National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). June 1, 2004
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2004/2004077.pdf>

Each section of the print volume of the 2004 Condition of Education begins with a summary of the general topic areas covered by the indicators in this volume and on The Condition of Education web site. All indicators contain a discussion, a single graph or table on the main indicator page, and one or more supplemental tables. All use the most recent national data available from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) or other sources serving the purposes of the indicator. The icon to the side of the graph or table directs readers to supplemental notes, supplemental tables, or another source for more information.

THE NEW GREAT MIGRATION: BLACK AMERICANS' RETURN TO THE SOUTH, 1965–2000

William H. Frey
Brookings Institution. May 2004
http://www.brookings.edu/urban/pubs/20040524_Frey.pdf

During the early part of the 20th century, black Americans left the American South in large numbers. Several factors precipitated their "Great Migration" to northern cities. First, the mechanization of southern agriculture rendered many farm workers, including blacks, redundant. Second, the industrialization of the Northeast and Midwest created millions of manufacturing jobs for unskilled workers. And not least in importance, the generally oppressive racial climate in the South acted as a "push" factor for many decades as blacks sought out more tolerant communities in other regions. Even as whites migrated to the Sunbelt in large numbers at mid-century, black migration out of the South exceeded black in-migration as late as the period 1965–70. Now, census migration data confirm that over the past three decades, the South has developed into a regional magnet for blacks, more so than for whites or the population as a whole. This renewed appeal to blacks, especially those with higher education levels and from all other parts of the country, provides additional evidence that the region's economic, amenity, and cultural "pull" factors now outweigh the "push" factors that predominated in past decades.

UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS: QUESTIONS PERSIST ABOUT THEIR IMPACT ON HOSPITALS' UNCOMPENSATED CARE COSTS. [GAO-04-472]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). May 28, 2004
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04472.pdf>

About 7 million undocumented aliens lived in the United States in 2000, according to Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) estimates. Hospitals in states where many of them live report that treating them can be a financial burden. GAO was asked to examine the relationship between treating undocumented aliens and hospitals' costs not paid by patients or insurance. GAO was also asked to examine federal funding available to help hospitals offset costs of treating undocumented aliens and the responsibility of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for covering medical expenses of sick or injured aliens encountered by Border Patrol and U.S. port-of-entry officials. To conduct this work, GAO surveyed 503 hospitals and interviewed Medicaid and hospital officials in 10 states. GAO also interviewed and obtained data from DHS officials.

VISA ISSUANCES: POLICY, ISSUES, AND LEGISLATION. [RL31512]

Ruth Ellen Wasem
Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). Updated February 11, 2004
http://wwwc.house.gov/case/crs_reports/Immigration.pdf

Fears that lax enforcement of immigration laws regulating the admission of foreign nationals into the United States may continue to make the United States vulnerable to further terrorist attacks have led to revisions in the policy as well as changes in who administers immigration law. The Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry

Reform Act (P.L. 107-173), sought to improve the visa issuance process by mandating data sharing so that consular officers have access to relevant electronic information. This law also required the development of an interoperable electronic data system to be used to share information relevant to alien admissibility and removability and required that all visas issued by October 2004 have biometric identifiers. S. 710) would, among other things, further broaden the security and terrorism grounds of inadmissibility to exclude aliens who have participated in the commission of acts of torture or extrajudicial killings abroad.

VISA POLICY: ROLES OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND HOMELAND SECURITY. [RL32256]

Ruth Ellen Wasem

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). Updated March 4, 2004

<http://www.iwar.org.uk/news-archive/crs/31350.pdf>

Foreign nationals not already legally residing in the United States who wish to come to the United States generally must obtain a visa to be admitted, with certain exceptions noted in law. Prior to establishment of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), two departments — the Department of State (DOS) Bureau of Consular Affairs and the Department of Justice (DOJ) Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) — each played key roles in administering the law and policies on the admission of aliens. Although DOS's Consular Affairs remains responsible for issuing visas, DHS's Bureau of Citizenship and Immigrant Services approves immigrant petitions, and DHS's Bureau of Customs and Border Protection inspects all people who enter the United States. In FY2002, DOS issued approximately 6.2 million visas and rejected over 2.2 million aliens seeking visas.

GLOBAL ISSUES

2004 ATLANTIC HURRICANE OUTLOOK

United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). National Weather Service (NWS), Climate Prediction Center (CPC). May 17, 2004

<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/products/outlooks/hurricane.html>

NOAA's 2004 Atlantic hurricane season outlook indicates a 50% probability of an above-normal hurricane season, a 40% probability of a near-normal season, and a 10% chance of a below-normal season, according to a consensus of scientists at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center (CPC), the Hurricane Research Division (HRD), and the National Hurricane Center (NHC). According to the current forecasts, many of the tropical storms and hurricanes in 2004 are likely to form during August-October over the tropical Atlantic and Caribbean Sea between 9°N-21.5°N.

2004 E-CRIME WATCH

United States Secret Service; Carnegie Mellon University, Software Engineering Institute, CERT® Coordination Center; CSO [Magazine]. May 25, 2004

<http://www.csoonline.com/releases/ecrimewatch04.pdf>

The groups noted above in the source field produced this report, based on survey data from security and law enforcement executives. The most common technologies deployed to combat e-crime are firewalls used by 98% of respondents, followed by physical security systems (94%) and manual patch management (91%). In ranking the effectiveness of various technologies, firewalls are considered the most effective (71%), followed by encryption of critical data in transit (63%) and encryption of critical data in storage (56%). Manual patch management, the third most common technology in use, also holds the dubious distinction of being rated as the single least effective technology (23%). Among policies and procedures, conducting regular security audits is listed as the most effective method (51%), and recording or reviewing employee phone conversations is listed as one of the least effective (26%).

2004 SPECIAL 301 REPORT

Executive Office of the President. Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). May 3, 2004

<http://www.ustr.gov/reports/2004-301/fullreport.pdf>

This is USTR's most recent "Special 301" annual report on the adequacy and effectiveness of intellectual property rights (IPR) protection in trading partners around the world. The report finds that although several countries have taken positive steps to improve their IPR regimes, the lack of IPR protection and enforcement continues to be a global problem. The report calls for certain governments to take stronger actions to combat commercial piracy and counterfeiting.

AIDS IN AFRICA. [IB10050]

Raymond W. Copson.

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). Updated May 28, 2004

<http://www.fas.org/man/crs/IB10050.pdf>

On May 16, 2004, Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Tommy Thompson announced an expedited approval process that could allow generic fixed-dose combination pills (FDCs) to be used in AIDS treatment programs funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). Many hailed the announcement as a step forward in making cheaper and more reliable antiretroviral therapy available in Africa, but critics said it placed an unnecessary hurdle in the way of distributing such pills. They maintained that the United States should have relied on the approval process of the World Health Organization, which had already cleared such pills. An HHS fact sheet said that approvals were anticipated within six weeks of application.

[Note: fact sheet at: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2004pres/20040516a.html>]

ANCESTRY: 2000. [Census Brief]

Angela Brittingham and G. Patricia de la Cruz

United States Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. June 30, 2004

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/c2kbr-35.pdf>

Ancestry is a broad concept that can mean different things to different people; it can be described alternately as where their ancestors are from, where they or their parents originated, or simply how they see themselves ethnically. Some people may have one distinct ancestry, while others are descendants of several ancestry groups, and still others may know only that their ancestors were from a particular region of the world or may not know their ethnic origins at all. The Census Bureau defines ancestry as a person's ethnic origin, heritage, descent, or "roots," which may reflect their place of birth, place of birth of parents or ancestors, and ethnic identities that have evolved within the United States.

ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE: FEDERAL AGENCIES NEED TO BETTER FOCUS EFFORTS TO ADDRESS RISK TO HUMANS FROM ANTIBIOTIC USE IN ANIMALS. [GAO-04-490]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). April 2004, Web-posted May 24, 2004

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04490.pdf>

Antibiotic resistance is a growing public health concern; antibiotics used in animals raised for human consumption contributes to this problem. Three federal agencies address this issue--the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Department of Agriculture (USDA). GAO examined (1) scientific evidence on the transference of antibiotic resistance from animals to humans and extent of potential harm to human health, (2) agencies' efforts to assess and address these risks, (3) the types of data needed to support research on these risks and extent to which the agencies collect these data, (4) use of antibiotics in animals in the United States compared with its key agricultural trading partners and competitors, and (5) information on how use has affected trade.

CHILD PROTECTION: A HANDBOOK FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

Inter-Parliamentary Union United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). April 2004

http://www.unicef.org/publications/Guide_Enfants_OK.pdf

This document reminds Parliamentarians of their functions of legislating, overseeing government activity, allocating financial resources and, as leaders within their nations and communities, raising awareness of issues and providing advocacy. This handbook addresses all of these functions in the realm of child protection. It does so in general terms, and with regard to ten specific child protection issues: birth registration and the right to identity; protection of children in armed conflict; sexual exploitation of children; trafficking and sale of children; harmful traditional practices; violence and neglect; alternative care; juvenile justice; child labor; and the rights of child victims.

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S.: 2004 UPDATE

Pew Center on Climate Change. 2004

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/74241%5FUS%20Activities%20Report%5F040604%5F075445%2Epdf>

This report summarizes climate change efforts in the United States, including activity:

* in Congress, where in October 2003, the U.S. Senate for the first time voted on legislation that would cap U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and establish a national GHG trading system;

* at the state level, where governments are enacting mandatory carbon controls and other programs to reduce emissions; and

- in the business community, where a growing number of corporations are setting greenhouse gas targets and achieving significant emission reductions.

COPING WITH GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: THE ROLE OF ADAPTATION IN THE UNITED STATES

William Easterling, Brian Hurd and Joel Smith

Pew Center on Global Climate Change. June 15, 2004

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/Adaptation%2Epdf>

This Pew report discusses the importance of adapting to climate change, the options available for adaptation, and the challenges of implementing them in the United States. Adaptation will not be an easy or cost-free process, according to the report. Despite the challenges, however, the capacity of the U.S. economy to adapt to climate change is high, because of the broad range of resources (including wealth, technology and information) that can be directed at the problem.

HELPING HANDS OR SHACKLED LIVES? UNDERSTANDING CHILD DOMESTIC LABOUR AND RESPONSES TO IT

International Labour Office (ILO), International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). June 11, 2004

http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/download/cdl_2004_helpinghands_en.pdf

This report examines in detail the plight of children working in difficult, sometimes hazardous forms of domestic labor. Many children who are in domestic labor are victims of exploitation. As they clean, cook, care for their employer's children, do heavy housework, they are deprived of rights due to them as children in international law - the right to play; visits with their family and friends; decent accommodation; and protection from sexual harassment or physical and mental abuse. Children employed in private homes do not have access to the protection that is their right. Unlike other workers, they live behind closed doors, where no one witnesses their abuse and oppression.

HOW HAVE THE WORLD'S POOREST FARED SINCE THE EARLY 1980S?

Shaohua Chen and Martin Ravallion

World Bank. June 10, 2004

http://econ.worldbank.org/files/36297_wps3341.pdf

Chen and Ravallion present new estimates of the extent of the developing world's progress against poverty. By the frugal \$1 a day standard, they find that there were 1.1 billion poor in 2001—almost 400 million fewer than 20 years earlier. Over the same period, the number of poor declined by more than 400 million in China. Half of this decline, though, occurred in a brief spurt in the first few years of the 1980s. The number of poor outside China rose slightly over the period. A marked "bunching-up" of people between \$1 and \$2 a day has also emerged. Sub-Saharan Africa has become the region with the highest incidence of extreme poverty and the greatest depth of poverty. If these trends continue, then the aggregate \$1 a day poverty rate for 1990 will be halved by 2015, though only East and South Asia will reach this goal.

HOW TO GET STARTED AND KEEP GOING: A GUIDE TO COMMUNITY MULTIMEDIA CENTRES

Stella Hughes, Sucharita Eashwar, and Venus E. Jennings, editors

UNESCO. May 12, 2004

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/file_download.php/full_book.pdf?URL_ID=15665&filename=10836741245full_book.pdf&filetype=application%2Fpdf&filesize=4094792&name=full_book.pdf&location=user-S/

This document is a practical tool intended to be of use to those involved in community multimedia centers (CMCs) or other models of community media (information centers, multipurpose telecenters, community learning centers, etc.). Staff and managers, community groups, NGOs working for community empowerment, communication planners supporting development activities, trainers, project partners and researchers may all find the guide of interest. It will be of particular use to those wanting to start a CMC or a related information center, as it covers range of topics linked to community broadcasting and telecenter management. Specific CMC issues, ranging from types of CMC to relevant technologies, community involvement, developing training and skills, organizational matters, research and evaluation, sustainability and sourcing information and contents are dealt with in eleven chapters. It contains numerous illustrations, practical examples and case studies from operational CMCs, which makes it a user-friendly reference.

INHERITING THE WORLD: THE ATLAS OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Bruce Gordon, Richard Mackay and Eva Rehfuess.

World Health Organization (WHO). June 23, 2004

<http://www.who.int/ceh/publications/en/atlas.pdf>

Many of the world's children are exposed to hazards in the very places that should be safest, including their homes, schools and local communities. Considering that their growing bodies are particularly sensitive to environmental threats, the final burden of childhood disease is substantial. Every year, according to WHO, more than three million children die due to unhealthy environments. The majority of these child deaths are caused by unsafe water, lack of sanitation, indoor air pollution, and mosquitoes bearing malaria. Other environmental hazards include passive smoking, lead and pesticides, road traffic accidents, and global environmental changes. Persistent poverty aggravates these environmental threats. The children worst affected are those in the developing world, and the enormous burden of ill-health falling on their youngest citizens constrains the social and economic development of these countries.

PATTERNS OF GLOBAL TERRORISM 2003

United States Department of State. April 29, 2003

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/31912.pdf>

The annual "Patterns of Global Terrorism" report is submitted in compliance with Title 22 of the United States Code, Section 2656f(a), which requires the Department of State to provide Congress a full and complete annual report on terrorism for those countries and groups meeting the criteria of Section (a)(1) and (2) of the Act. The report may be downloaded in its entirety or users may choose to view/download one or more sections individually. Included in the report are regional overviews, a chronology of terrorist incidents and background information on Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations as well as other terrorist groups.

PATTERNS OF GLOBAL TERRORISM 2003 [REVISIONS]

United States Department of State. Web-posted June 22, 2004

<http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/pgtrpt/2003/33773.htm>

In response to comments from Representative Henry Waxman of California concerning data errors in portions of the originally released "Patterns of Global Terrorism 2003" [ADSURLS Item# 04AD590], the Department of State decided to review the data. Working with the Terrorist Threat Information Center (TTIC), a new entity that reports to the Director of Central Intelligence, the State Department determined that the criticisms were justified and that some of the data reported in the original version needed to be replaced with up-to-date, corrected data. The new sections of the report have the corrected data. The Department of state notes that: "Numbers in the text, specifically numbers of killed and wounded, will be revised to reflect the corrected Appendices."

RIVERS AT RISK

WWF. June 22, 2004

<http://www.panda.org/downloads/freshwater/riversatriskfullreport.pdf>

This report identifies the top 21 rivers at risk from dams being planned or under construction [Yangtze, La Plata, Tigris & Euphrates, Salween, Kizilirmak, Ganges, Amazon, Mekong, Brahmaputra, Xun Jiang (Pearl River), Danube, Huang He (Yellow River), Kura-Araks, Yesil-Kelkit, Büyük Menderes, Çoruh, Simav, Ebro, Indus, Qezel Owzan]. It shows that over 60 per cent of the world's 227 largest rivers have been fragmented by dams, which has led to the destruction of wetlands, a decline in freshwater species - including river dolphins, fish, and birds - and the forced displacement of tens of millions of people.

SURVEY OF AMERICANS ON HIV/AIDS, PART ONE: GLOBAL HIV/AIDS - SUMMARY AND CHARTPACK

Kaiser Family Foundation. June 2, 2004

<http://www.kff.org/hiv/aids/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&PageID=36560>

These survey findings of Americans' views on global HIV/AIDS are part of the Kaiser Family Foundation's national "Survey of Americans on HIV/AIDS," conducted in spring 2004. Other portions of the national survey will be released this summer. This portion of the survey explores such issues as foreign aid, general knowledge about the global epidemic and the role of the United States, as well as which individuals are associated with the fight against global HIV/AIDS and where Americans get information about the issue.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S PATTERNS OF GLOBAL TERRORISM REPORT: TRENDS, STATE SPONSORS, AND RELATED ISSUES. [RL32417]

Raphael Perl

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). June 1, 2004

<http://www.fas.org/irp/crs/RL32417.pdf>

Some members of Congress and media organizations have questioned the reliability of some of the data presented in the most recent Patterns of Global Terrorism report issued by the Department of State. [ADSURLS Item# 04AD590; report available at: <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/31912.pdf>] Indeed, even in previous years the annual report "has been subject to periodic criticism that it is unduly influenced by domestic, other foreign policy, political and economic considerations. This CRS report addresses certain issues related to the content of the Patterns of Global Terrorism publication.

THE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF SMOKING: A REPORT OF THE SURGEON GENERAL

United States Department of Health and Human Services, United States Public Health Service. Office of the Surgeon General. May 27, 2004

http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/sgr_2004/chapters.htm

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/smokingconsequences>

In 1964 the office of the U.S. Surgeon General issued its first report on the dangers associated with smoking tobacco. Forty years later, this new report states that smoking kills an estimated 440,000 people in the United States each year. On average, men who smoke cut their lives short by 13.2 years, and female smokers lose 14.5 years. The economic toll exceeds \$157 billion each year in the United States -- \$75 billion in direct medical costs and \$82 billion in lost productivity. The second website noted above provides access not only to the various chapters of this large report, but also to related materials that will be of interest to public health specialists as well as to clinicians.

THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S 2003 FINDINGS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

United States Department of Labor, Bureau of International Labor Affairs. May 11, 2004

<http://www.dol.gov/ilab/media/reports/iclp/tda2003/tda2003.pdf>

The Department of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor was prepared in response to a child labor reporting requirement under the Trade and Development Act of 2000. Under this act, trade beneficiary countries and territories are required to implement their international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The report presents information on the nature and extent of the problem in 144 countries and territories and the efforts being made by their governments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Bureau of International Labor Affairs' International Child Labor Program (ICLP) collected data from a wide variety of sources, including the State Department, U.S. embassies and consulates, foreign governments, nongovernmental organizations and international agencies. In addition, bureau staff conducted field visits to many of the countries covered in the report.

THE WORLD HEALTH REPORT 2004: CHANGING HISTORY

World Health Organization (WHO). May 2004

http://www.who.int/whr/2004/en/report04_en.pdf

Unknown barely a quarter of a century ago, HIV/AIDS is now the leading cause of death for young adults worldwide. More than 20 million people have died from it and an estimated 34–46 million others are now infected with the virus. There is as yet no vaccine and no cure. This year's annual World Health Report calls for a comprehensive HIV/AIDS strategy that links prevention, treatment, care and long-term support. At a crucial moment in the pandemic's history, the international community has an unprecedented opportunity to alter its course and simultaneously fortify health systems for the enduring benefit of all. [Note: Page size varies from one section to another. Before printing sections of this report, check the paper size required for that section.]

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT (TIP). [2004]

United States Department of State. June 14, 2004

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/33614.pdf>

The State Department is required by law [Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000] to submit a report each year to the Congress on foreign government efforts to eliminate severe forms of trafficking in persons. This 2004 report is the fourth annual TIP Report. Although country actions to end human trafficking are its focus, the report also tells the painful stories of the victims of human trafficking--21st century slaves. This

report uses the term "trafficking in persons" which is used in U.S. law and around the world, and that term encompasses slave-trading and modern-day slavery in all its forms.

UNPROTECTED: SEX, CONDOMS AND THE HUMAN RIGHT TO HEALTH [PHILIPPINES]

Human Rights Watch (HRW). May 5, 2004

<http://hrw.org/reports/2004/philippines0504/philippines0504.pdf>

In this new report, Human Rights Watch says that the Philippine government bans the use of national funds for condom supplies. Some local authorities, such as the mayor of Manila City, prohibit the distribution of condoms in government health facilities. School-based HIV/AIDS educators told Human Rights Watch that schools often prohibited them from discussing condoms with students. HRW addresses religious issues in the report that are delicate and that require considerable policy analysis not only on the part of the Philippines, but also for the Holy See and for the U.S. and other donors.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH IN CONTEXT. HEALTH BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN (HBSC) STUDY: INTERNATIONAL REPORT FROM THE 2001/2002 SURVEY

Candace Currie, Chris Roberts, Anthony Morgan, Rebecca Smith, Wolfgang Settertobulte, Oddrun Samdal and Vivian Barnekow Rasmussen, editors

World Health Organization (WHO). June 3, 2004

<http://www.euro.who.int/Document/e82923.pdf>

To chart the links between the life circumstances and young people's health and build a better understanding of the factors that influence their well-being, the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study conducted a collaborative cross-national survey of over 162 000 young people aged 11, 13 and 15 years in 35 countries and regions of Europe and North America in 2001/2002. The information in this international report, received directly from young people themselves, shows how their behavior and life circumstances mark their health. Specific factors affecting youth health that are examined in the report include: tobacco smoking; alcohol consumption; cannabis consumption; sexual health of 15-year-olds; physical exercise; eating habits; body dissatisfaction, dieting and weight control; rates of obesity; oral health; bullying; injuries; and family life.

LAW ENFORCEMENT / ILLEGAL DRUGS

ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES OF INTERNATIONAL BRIBERY AND FAIR COMPETITION 2004. THE SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT UNDER SECTION 6 OF THE INTERNATIONAL ANTI-BRIBERY AND FAIR COMPETITION ACT OF 1998

U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration. June 29, 2004

<http://www.tcc.mac.doc.gov/pdf/2004bribery.pdf>

This sixth and final annual report under the International Anti-Bribery and Fair Competition Act of 1998 (IAFCA) examines the progress that parties have made in implementing and enforcing the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (Antibribery Convention). The report indicates that all 35 signatories to the Convention now have legislation in place that criminalizes bribery of foreign public officials by persons within their jurisdiction. Important reviews of parties' actual enforcement of the convention should be finished by the end of 2007.

BORDER SECURITY: AGENCIES NEED TO BETTER COORDINATE THEIR STRATEGIES AND OPERATIONS ON FEDERAL LANDS. [GAO-04-590]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). June 16, 2004; Web-posted July 1, 2004.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04590.pdf>

Since the mid-1990s—and especially since September 11, 2001—the government has focused attention and resources on preventing illegal aliens, drug smugglers, and potential terrorists from entering the United States across its land borders with Mexico and Canada. The Border Patrol is responsible for protecting the nation's borders. However, a significant portion of the borderlands are federal or tribal lands managed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and Forest Service. Illegal border activities, including alien border crossings and drug smuggling, on federal and tribal lands in Arizona have been increasing since the mid- to late-1990s, creating law enforcement challenges for land management agencies.

BORDER SECURITY: INSPECTIONS PRACTICES, POLICIES, AND ISSUES. [RL32399]

Ruth Ellen Wasem, Jennifer Lake, Lisa Seghetti, James Monke and Stephen Viña

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). May 26, 2004

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/RL32399.pdf>

The United States now has a unified inspections operation at the borders; a single inspector is charged with examining people, animals, plants, goods, and cargo upon entry to the country. The transfer of these functions to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) marks a significant policy shift for all of these functions, clarifying that - although there are important commercial, economic, health, humanitarian, and immigration responsibilities - ensuring the security of U.S. borders is the top priority. The decision by DHS officials to further integrate the inspection duties so that there is "one face at the border" now means that Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspectors are essentially interchangeable and responsible for all primary inspections.

HOMELAND SECURITY: PERFORMANCE OF INFORMATION SYSTEM TO MONITOR FOREIGN STUDENTS AND EXCHANGE VISITORS HAS IMPROVED, BUT ISSUES REMAIN. [GAO-04-690]

United States General Accounting Office (GAO). June 18, 2004

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04690.pdf>

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has implemented the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) to collect and record key data on foreign students, exchange visitors, and their dependents—prior to their entering the United States, upon their entry, and during their stay. GAO reviewed major features of SEVIS, including (1) system performance, (2) actions to improve performance, and (3) plans for collecting the fee to be paid by foreign students and exchange visitors to cover SEVIS costs.

ILLICIT DRUGS AND THE TERRORIST THREAT: CAUSAL LINKS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR DOMESTIC DRUG CONTROL POLICY. [RL32334]

Mark A.R. Kleiman

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). Updated April 20, 2004

<http://www.fas.org/irp/crs/RL32334.pdf>

The international traffic in illicit drugs contributes to terrorist risk through at least five mechanisms: supplying cash, creating chaos and instability, supporting corruption, providing "cover" and sustaining common infrastructures for illicit activity, and competing for law enforcement and intelligence attention. Of these, cash and chaos are likely to be the two most important. Different drugs, different trafficking routes, and different organizations have different relationships to terrorist threats. Therefore it might be possible to improve domestic security by targeting drug law enforcement on those drugs, routes, and organizations with the strongest known or potential links to terror. However, doing so would require new analytic capacities and decision-making strategies for all the agencies involved in drug law enforcement and there is no assurance that the policies that best implement the mission of protecting Americans from drug abuse will also perform best in protecting the country from terrorism.

IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION: CURRENT LEGISLATIVE ISSUES. [RL32369]

Alison Siskin

Library of Congress. Congressional Research Service (CRS). April 28, 2004

<http://www.fas.org/irp/crs/RL32369.pdf>

There are many policy issues surrounding detention of aliens. The Illegal Immigrant Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA) increased the number of aliens subject to mandatory detention, and raised concerns about the justness of mandatory detention, especially as it is applied to asylum seekers arriving without proper documentation. Additionally, the increase in the number of mandatory detainees has raised concerns about the amount of detention space available to house aliens detained by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Some contend that decisions on which aliens to release from detention and when to release aliens from detention may be based on the amount of detention space, not on the merits of individual cases.

THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

William M. Landes and Richard A. Posner

American Enterprise Institute (AEI) and Brookings Institution. AEI-Brookings Joint Center for Regulatory Studies. June 8, 2004

http://www.aei.org/docLib/20040608_Landes.pdf

The authors seek to explain why intellectual property law has expanded over the last half century, focusing in particular on the rapid growth that began with the 1976 Copyright Act. They explore a fundamental, unresolved issue in the theory of regulation: why some kinds of regulation have increased dramatically over this period while others have virtually disappeared. Landes and Posner note that the growth in intellectual property law has been uneven: "the statutory expansion in copyrights has been more rapid than in either patents or trademarks, and that patent protection has grown in part as a result of the decisions of [one] court (which has no counterpart in other areas of intellectual property) that has exclusive jurisdiction over patent appeals."

TOP [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS] IPR SEIZURES 2003

United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). 2004

http://cbp.gov/ImageCache/cgov/content/import/communications_5fto_5fttrade/statistics/iprstats_2epdf/v1/iprstats.pdf

These charts summarize the largest quantities of CBP's seizures of IPR violations recorded during 2003. There are separate charts for categories of products and others for country of origin, listed by trading partner. There are also comparative data for previous years.

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